



FY 2005/06 Non-Departmental Funding Request Application

A. Organizational Information

1. Legal Name of Agency: Legal Services of North Florida, Inc.
2. Street Address/ Mailing Address:
2119 Delta Blvd.
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
3. Total Agency Budget:
2004/05 (current) \$ 2,802,000 2005/06 (proposed) \$ 3,000,000
4. Date of agency incorporation: August 25, 1976
5. Does the agency have a 501(C)(3) status? Yes X No
6. Agency representative: Kristine Knab
7. Mailing address (if different from agency mailing address): SAME
8. Telephone: (850) 385-9007 Ex 16
9. Fax: (850) 205-6540
10. E-mail Address: kris@lsnf.org

B. Project Information

1. Succinctly describe the program for which funding is requested, including types of services provided (attach additional pages as necessary):

The children served by Team Child live in Gadsden and Leon Counties and are facing criminal charges that often resulted from unresolved civil legal problems and/or life management needs.

Team Child is a collaborative effort between staff and volunteers of Legal Services of North Florida and the Second Circuit Public Defender's Office,

who (1) identify children facing criminal charges who have underlying civil legal problems that contributed to their behavior, (2) who pursue resolution of those civil problems and jointly address options for redress of criminal violations, and (3) who provide ongoing support through social service agencies, school personnel, and mental health professionals to ensure a holistic approach is utilized to turn troubled lives into productive futures. Services vary from addressing education needs to housing and family related issues.

Oversight of the project is managed by LSNF's Executive Director Kristine E. Knab, a highly respected attorney and legal services director with 26 years experience at LSNF, with assistance from LSNF Director of Litigation Scott Manion, who has over 26 years of public law experience. The attorney assigned to provide direct representation to Team Child clients is Stephanie Johnson who has been with LSNF for eleven years and has specialized in children's issues for the last five years.

There is no cost for services provided and all of the families and children served are low-income, unable to advocate successfully for themselves, and often "invisible" to the powers that substantially impact their lives.

2. What is the target population intended to be served or benefit from this program?

The population targeted by this program is comprised of youth in Leon and Gadsden Counties charged with criminal offenses who have civil legal needs. In 2004, 1,284 youth in those two counties were represented by the public defender. All were low income. Because of resources, it is estimated that under 10% could be helped by Team Child intervention. In 2004 we were able to provide representation on 39 cases in Gadsden and 89 cases in Leon County.

3. What methods are used to effectively reach this program's target population?

Clients are effectively referred by the public defender's staff who identifies children they are representing who could benefit from Team Child services. Staff periodically meet with new juvenile judges, Tallahassee/Leon County law enforcement officials, and area agencies who would potentially evaluate/treat Team Child youth. Additionally, brochures have been developed and distributed in high impact areas. Lastly, annual fundraising events contribute to raising awareness, developing community partnerships, and providing a vital funding component.

4. Outline the phases and time frames in which this program will be accomplished if funded.

If funded, the program time frame will run from October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006. No phases are planned as this is an ongoing program with no anticipated changes requiring phase implementation.

5. Projected Program Impact/outcome results - What is the projected impact on the target population?

Children and families who are served by this program are given new hope for a happier and more successful future. Two of the main benefits are an enhanced relationship between the children and their parents and increased educational opportunities resulting from ensuring educational services are appropriate to the child's needs. In addition to education issues, many other of these families' needs are resolved to provide a more stable environment and one which is not characterized by constant turmoil caused by the strain of the child's destructive behavior. In addition to the positive impact on families, Team Child has produced considerable savings to the community. An independent evaluation of the project conducted by Stefan C. Norrbin and David Rasmussen, Professors of Economics at Florida State University, found that the Team Child clients were highly troubled youths who were likely to recidivate and, remarkably, that the project lowered post treatment arrest rate by 45%. Relying on rigorously measured benefits and costs, the evaluation further found that the project generated between \$2.44 and \$3.91 of benefits per dollar spent on the program. Because of Team Child community savings continue to be realized, relating to less need for law enforcement and to private costs suffered by fewer victims. Although the FSU study quantifies results related to reduction of recidivism and savings to the community, what cannot be quantified is the impact we have made on our client's lives. We give our clients a sense of dignity, a feeling of control over their lives and a chance for a successful future.

Since the inception of the project, Team Child has served over 150 children and their families with multiple needs. Approximately 57% of the children served in Leon County are "south-side" residents and 77% are African-American. Approximately 65% come from environments in which domestic violence has been present; 15% have experienced sexual abuse. Ongoing assistance for each child is needed over several years, as help is provided to solve housing and family related issues as well as educational and medical treatment issues. Terminating services now would likely

result in unraveling the progress that has resulted in turning these children's lives around.

6. Why is this funding requested? If this funding request is not approved, what would be the impact on your agency or program for which funding is sought?

LSNF is requesting funds to continue serving troubled youth with consequent savings to the county.

Without Leon County funding, Team Child would be forced to reduce services to Leon County's children and families. New clients could not be served; existing resources would have to be utilized to continue ongoing services to children who have already began to experience a positive shift in their opportunity and hope for a brighter future. This would result in more reliance on community services for children we must turn away and would increase the numbers of children in the juvenile justice system and families with children who are unable to solve their legal problems.

7. What other agencies in Leon County (governmental, non-profit, private) provide service(s) similar to those which would be provided by this funding?

No other agencies in Leon County provide similar services to Team Child.

C. Funding Information

Attachment # 3
Page 5 of 7

1. Total cost of program: \$144,000
2. Funding requested from Leon County: \$ 90,000
3. Please list the following Revenue Sources for the current year and the upcoming year.

Revenue Source	2004/05 (Current)	2005/06 (Proposed)
Leon County (not CHSP):	45,000	90,000
City of Tallahassee (not CHSP):	20,000	0
United Way (not CHSP):	0	0
Community Human Services Partnership (CHSP):	0	0
State:	0	0
Federal:	0	0
Grants:	13,000	10,000
Contributions/Special Events:	40,000	20,000
Dues/Membership:	0	0
Program Service Fees:	0	0
Other Income (please itemize)*:	12,000	15,000
TOTAL REVENUE	130,000	135,000

* Other Income: Partners Program and Juvenile Dependency Program.

4. Please list the following expenses for the current year and the upcoming year.

Expense	2004/05 (Current)	2005/06 (Proposed)
Compensation and benefits:	116,250	120,000
Professional Fees:	1,500	1,500
Occupancy/Utilities/Network:	2,500	2,500
Supplies/postage:	3,000	3,000
Equipment Rental, Main., purchase:	1,000	1,000
Meeting costs/travel/transportation:	1,000	1,000
Staff/Board development/Recruitment:	0	0
Awards/Grants/Direct aid:	0	0
Bad Debts/uncollectibles:	0	0
Bonding/liability/directors insurance:	1,000	1,500
Other expense (please itemize)*:	3,750	4,500
TOTAL EXPENSES	130,000	135,000

* Other expenses: Litigation Fund for Clients, Public Relations, and Fund Raising Activities.

5. Describe actions to secure funding other than County funds.

LSNF actively seeks and applies to federal, state, and local government and non-government sources of grant and foundation funding as well as soliciting funds from local individuals and businesses to provide resources for programs targeting Leon County residents on a year round basis. In addition to a resource development staff, Team Child has at its disposal a volunteer grant writer who is constantly seeking sources of funding and submitting proposals on behalf of the program. LSNF has successfully sought funds from private contributors to supplement grant funding.

6. Will this project or event recur every year?

No _____ Yes X

7. Would funding by Leon County be requested in subsequent years for successful completion of the project?

No _____ Yes X

8. If "yes," estimate: the amount of next year's funding request. \$90,000

9. Has Leon County ever contributed funds to this project in the past?

No _____ Yes X

10. If "yes," list date(s), recipient or agency, project title and amount of funding:

2004-05 Legal Services of North Florida Team Child \$ 45,000

11. Attach a copy of the Agency's most recent financial report.

(2003 Attached - note: 2004 audited statement not yet received from our auditors at the time this application is due; however, we will be happy to provide a copy as soon as it is received.)

CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned representative of the agency, organization or individual making this request, certify that to the best of my knowledge all statements contained in this request and its attachments are true and correct.

Printed Name: Kristine E. Knab

Signature: Kristine E. Knab

Date Signed : March 24, 2005